



**OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY
GENERAL OF THE DISTRICT OF
COLUMBIA**



**OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF ILLINOIS**

President Joseph Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

The Honorable Alejandro Mayorkas
Secretary of Homeland Security
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
245 Murray Lane, SW
Washington, DC 20528

December 1, 2022

Re: Redesignation of Haiti for Temporary Protected Status

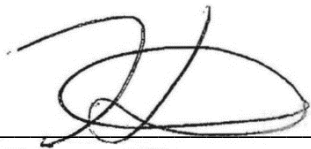
Dear President Biden and Secretary Mayorkas:

As the Attorneys General of the District of Columbia and the State of Illinois, and as the only two attorneys general of Haitian descent, we respectfully call on the Department of Homeland Security to redesignate Haiti for Temporary Protected Status (TPS). Haitian immigrants are essential members of many communities and embedded in the fabric of American society. They enrich the cultural diversity and vibrancy of our country. Unfortunately, conditions within Haiti continue to deteriorate and the redesignation of Haiti's TPS status is imperative.

Our offices have been heavily involved in issues related to Haitian migrants and the Haitian community in the United States. We have jointly led [amicus briefs](#) arguing that the U.S. government cannot expel non-citizens to a country where they might face persecution or torture, as well as letters calling on the administration to [engage in humanitarian solutions](#) to address the Haitian refugee crisis at the U.S. border and [in support of the Haitian Family Reunification Parole Program](#). We know all too well the challenges that Haitian immigrants face and are saddened by the continued and severe crises within Haiti including extreme political instability, gang violence, a cholera outbreak, and food insecurity.

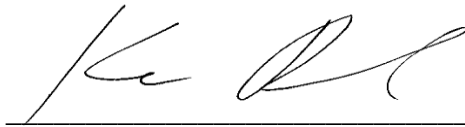
We recognize and applaud the Department's recent decision to extend TPS for current holders through June 30, 2024. However, we urge the Department to ensure that Haitian migrants who have arrived since the TPS eligibility date of August 3, 2021 are also eligible for protected status. These migrants, like those before, have risked their lives to escape violence and acute poverty. If forced to return to Haiti, these individuals and families would face a country whose conditions have only worsened since they fled. Redesignating Haiti for TPS would provide critical protection against removal and make these immigrants eligible for work authorization in the United States. We urge the administration to adopt this path forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'KARL A. RACINE', written over a horizontal line.

KARL A. RACINE

Attorney General for the District of Columbia

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'KWAME RAOUL', written over a horizontal line.

KWAME RAOUL

Attorney General of Illinois